for which BROWNE was responsible was to identify and deny applications that were predicated on sham marriages. BROWNE assisted MOZER-BROWNE in the scheme by corruptly approving applications submitted by HPPS's customers without requiring those applicants to appear for their scheduled interviews.

From approximately April 2001 through November 2005, BROWNE, MOZER-BROWNE, and their co-conspirators fraudulently procured hundreds of green cards for HPPS's customers, reaping fees totaling more than \$1 million.

 $\,$  PHILIP BROWNE was sentenced in December 2007 to 30 months in prison.

Twenty-eight other defendants, besides BROWNE and MOZER-BROWNE, have been charged in this case. Of those twenty-eight defendants, twenty-six have pleaded guilty. PETER ABSOLAM was found guilty following a jury trial. Charges against one defendant, WENDY HARRISON, remain pending. As to that defendant, the charges in the Indictment are merely allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

Mr. GARCIA praised U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Office of the Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security, for their work in this investigation.

This case is being prosecuted by the Public Corruption Unit of the United States Attorney's Office. Assistant United States Attorneys MICHAEL A. LEVY and CHRISTINE Y. WONG are in charge of the prosecution.

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